

TEMPER OF WHEAT MARKET CHANGED

Prices Are Higher and Short Sellers Anxious Because of Light Primary Receipts and Unfavorable Crop Reports.

New York, January 8.—There was a radical change in the temper of the wheat market early in the week, existing conditions being diametrically opposite to those that prevailed in the preceding week. Sluggishness and narrowness was displaced by buoyancy and rapid variations, and there was a general awakening among the speculative elements. At the outset strength was largely ascribed to nervousness among shorts, owing to unfavorable weather news, the temperature being low in the Southwest, as well as in the Northwest. Buying was stimulated by decidedly light primary receipts in the Northwest, where the arrivals were more than 50 per cent smaller than in the same days last year.

Advices from the West indicated that professional operators were steadily adding to their large line of May in Chicago, prompted by suggestions that the crop of spring wheat had been materially overestimated. The belief in a crop of less than 200,000,000 bushels instead of 231,000,000, according to the final government report, is greater. Farmers have already marketed a big proportion of their surplus, and dealers anticipate large reductions in available supplies here. Demand was also stimulated partly by the encouraging cable advices. European markets were strong, influenced by the light world's shipments, the big decrease in the quantity on passage, and the large reduction in the European visible supply.

The Week-End Market.
Late in the week there was even more striking buoyancy. Offerings were small and demand fairly animated, short sellers displaying increased anxiety to cover, partly because the big bulls still gave strong support.

DECLINE IN PRICES FOLLOWED BY RALLY

Trading in Cotton During Past Week Has Been Mostly Professional, and Figures Have Been Irregular.

New York, January 8.—The trading in cotton the past week has been light in volume, as a general rule, and mostly professional, with prices fluctuating in an irregular and unsettled manner. Intervals of liquidation and Southern selling have, however, predominated, and this tendency has given a dragging to prices against occasional rallies of support and covering of shorts. From the low level of 14 1/2 for March, and 14 1/2 for May, there was a recovery of twenty to twenty-five points at one time by early Friday morning, bringing March up to 15 1/2 and May to 15 1/2.

But most of this, however, has since been lost. Spot markets have changed little, but conditions are reported easier and in buyers' favor at most points in the South, from a falling off in the demand from England and continental spinners. This is attributed to the large purchases they have already made and the desire to await the next two spinning reports of the Census Bureau to settle the size of the crop. In the meantime outside speculation in the futures has been active, and the past week has at any time in the last year.

Future Government Reports.
The great majority of trade interests, as well as the rank and file of the speculative element, are now waiting the publication of the next official report of the Census Bureau on the spinning of the crop before attempting to anticipate the next important movement in the market. This is due to the anticipated fact that the opening of the market on Tuesday, of late there has been a disposition on the part of the bull interests to exaggerate the amount of cotton that has been ginned. This has undoubtedly been for the purpose of cooling the market again after it has been published on the ground that it is smaller than had been anticipated, and therefore a new bull argument. It remains to be seen whether this plan will be successful in receiving a speculative line of investment buying movement.

Such estimates now current are that this report will show over 100,000 bales ginned from December 12 to January 1, against 255,000 bales for that period last year. This would bring the total amount of the crop ginned for the season up to 1,126,000 bales. In conservative circles it is usually well informed, it is not believed, however, the coming report will show quite as much as that total. At the same time it is believed the next report from the Census Bureau, due on January 23, covering the entire crop, will show a sufficient amount ginned to date to very plainly indicate a full confirmation of the government's crop estimate of 1,126,000, made on December 6, when the final report from the Census Bureau for the season is announced on March 20. That report, besides giving whatever additions and corrections that have been made, will also give the total amount of the crop, which will give the net and gross weight of the bales. That will settle the crop of 1910. No other government report will then be due until acreage and condition report on the new crop of 1911 is ready the first week in June.

HOPES ARE TEMPERED BY PAST FAILURES

New York, January 8.—Stock market operations of the new year's opening week showed a tentative disposition in the speculation and not much participation outside of professional ranks. The summing up of the past year's record and the coming year's prospects in numerous annual reviews had the effect of tempering hopes for the future by the remembrance of past disappointments. Confidence in the ultimate outcome of the opening week will be fairly general, but authoritative opinion showed some wide divergences over the probable period of the reaction of the latter part of last year. Suggestions that business might still be kept within reasonable limits by the spirit of caution and by the necessities of the credit situation, available capital supplies and retrenchments of operating and producing costs, were not calculated to incite to fresh prices in speculation.

Presented some expectation that had been felt that some doubtful factors might induce a degree of positive depression and a short interest remaining uncovered was the consequence. The demand to cover from this source imparted strength to the market. The measures of retrenchment and economy were generally in force, while marking a halt in enterprise and progress are recognized as the correctives for what is lacking in conditions. The progress of recuperation already shows in the money market. An expanding volume

DISCUSS METHODS OF SANITATION

Lancaster Association Holds Regular Meeting—News of the North.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Lancaster, Va., January 8.—The regular monthly meeting of the Lancaster Sanitary Association was held in the High School building here yesterday with a large attendance of members. Dr. M. C. Oldham, member of the County Board of Health, delivered an instructive lecture on the causes and prevention of infectious and contagious diseases, for which the association gave him a vote of thanks. Reports made by the standing committee showed that the work of putting the village under sanitary regulations had begun, and it is expected before the beginning of spring to have the premises in the village supplied with sanitary appliances in accordance with the regulations adopted by the State Health Department and the statutes enacted on the subject by the General Assembly.

The third meeting for the session of the Lancaster Teachers' Association will begin here next Friday, when State Superintendent Eggleston and Robert L. Blanton, editor of the Virginia Journal of Education, are expected to make addresses. An attractive program has been arranged, and many teachers, school officials and friends of education are expected to be present. Dr. Frank W. Lewis, superintendent of the schools of Lancaster and Northumberland, is about to complete his visitation to the schools of this division. Last week he attended an educational gathering at Redville, in the lower part of Northumberland, where a Rifle and Large United States Flag were presented by the Junior Order of American Mechanics to the high school recently rebuilt there to replace one destroyed by fire last spring.

Miss Agnes Palmer, who was elected Queen of the Holly Realm at the recent annual of the Kiwanis Club, has appointed A. A. Crable, of Tappanhook, her minister of State; Miss Margaret Blanton, first maid of honor, and Miss Julia V. Harding, second maid of honor.

Oscar Tatum, the farmer who committed suicide several days ago in the lower part of Lancaster by blowing his brains out with a shotgun, is said to have been driven to commit the act by a deep depression about his health and that of his wife. He was about forty years old and leaves a wife, but no children.

Martin J. Strickland, of Brandy Station, Va., has severed his connection with the Central Union Life Insurance Company, to assume the duties of president of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Bank of New Orleans.

The Crop vs. Consumption.
If the ginning report fully confirms the government's crop estimate of 1,126,000 bales, about 340,000 bales for the season's lint and rapeseeds of sample cotton will be added to those already on hand, making a total of about 1,466,000 bales extra, which may be marketed during August from the new crop before the cotton year of 1910-11 ends on August 31. That would give an available supply on the total commercial market for the season of 11,866,000 bales, the amount carried over at the end of 1910. The new crop is at the end of the year, and the new crop is ready for consumption until the new crop is ready to come on the market next September. Calculations on the probability of the world's consumption would then be in order.

Mr. Ellison, the recognized authority in England on such matters, has so far rendered a preliminary indication of between 11,000,000 and 12,000,000 bales. There are so many things to be considered in rendering an estimate on the world's consumption of any commodity as late as the end of this month or in February that even then they are hazardous. The state of trade throughout the world must be carefully considered in connection with the actual consumption of previous years, especially in England, Germany, France, Austria, India and China, as well as in this country.

A Complicated Problem.
Then there is also the question as to which which spinners may have to pay for the balance of their supplies for the season, and whether there will be a profitable basis between the raw staple and the manufactured goods to take into consideration. The subject, indeed, is such an extensive and perplexing one, with so much to be taken for granted that even the best expert calculations, like that of Mr. Ellison, may be over 50,000 bales from the ultimate results. Consequently the problem of figuring the probable value of cotton the balance of the season from the present basis of over 15 cents per pound for the raw staple on a total actual yield of 11,260,000 bales, and a commercial crop movement of possibly 12,000,000, is not nearly so simple to the oldest and most experienced cotton men in the trade as it looks to the many new comers, who are now predicting a 12 to 13-cent cotton on the basis of the 26-cent cotton on

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will settle there shortly.

Warren Beane, an old and highly respected citizen of Lancaster, who was severely paralyzed one day last week while going down the Corotoman River in his gasoline launch, is reported to be slightly better, but owing to his advanced age but little hope is entertained for his recovery.

R. Otis Harding, who has been dangerously ill with pneumonia at his home on the Great Wicomico River, is said to be on the safe road to recovery.

The epidemic of diphtheria which broke out in several families in this vicinity about two weeks before Christmas, thanks to the prompt action of the Board of Health, has been checked, and no new cases have been reported. The quinquantling of the infected families and the use of antitoxin prevented the spread of the disease and the fatal termination of any of the cases.

Mrs. Clarence Dunaway, of Richmond, and Cadet Ralph and Cyrus Chilton, of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, who spent the Christmas holidays here at the home of their father, William Chilton, clerk of the Circuit Court, left yesterday.

Mrs. Mary Bittner, wife of John Bittner, living at Weems, in the lower part of Lancaster, died last night after a lingering illness. She is survived by her husband, two sons and three daughters, all living at Weems. The funeral services were conducted in the Presbyterian Chapel at Weems by the Rev. J. D. Hoiler, of the Southern Methodist Church.

Mr. Ella Hale, wife of Zephaniah Hale, died at her home near Sunnybank last Thursday night, after an illness of several months. She is survived by her husband and one daughter. The funeral services were conducted today by the Rev. James E. Massey, of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Eastern Shore News.
Onancock, Va., January 8.—The oyster business on the seaside and bay-side of Accomac has been exceptionally good for the past sixty days. At Onancock oysters are faster than usual, and are bringing fancy prices. An average of a thousand barrels a day of selects are being shipped by rail.

In addition, large quantities of medium select are being shipped for shipment and loaded on vessels in the shell. It is claimed that every man on the island has work and money. On the Chesapeake, in the lower part of the Sound and off Onancock, the catch and growth of the year was large. The oysters are fat, and sell readily at a profit on the ground at high prices. Tangier Sound has not had so prosperous a season.

Wednesday night last Herman LaBarr, a resident of the town, walked to Belle Haven and back in seven hours and fifty minutes. The round distance is twenty-eight miles, and was to be made in eight hours.

He left Onancock at midnight, reported at the central telephone office in Belle Haven, where he was known by the operator, and returned to Onancock, having eight minutes to spare. The water was 42, and he was not to eat or drink anything during the journey.

The weather during a part of the week has been quite cold. In spite of this and the freezing of land and water, two snakes were found crawling as best they could near the town, and were killed. One was a black, six feet long, and the other a moccasin.

A. W. Reed, of Westmoreland, has purchased a farm in Lancaster County from John H. Davis, and is in the spring.

INTEREST ATTACHES TO GINNING REPORT
New Orleans, La., January 8.—The New Orleans cotton market this week will not open until Tuesday morning, owing to Monday being the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. The first thing Tuesday morning, five minutes before the trading in the future market, the Census Bureau will issue a report of the amount of cotton ginned up to January 1. It had for some time been assumed that this report would be of no special consequence, but rumors from the interior that spinners were again increasing their working time, however, caused considerable interest to be attached to the figures.

The average expectation is probably for a report of around 11,000,000 bales which would mean that something over 400,000 bales had been ginned in the period between December 13 and January 1. In the same period last year, 280,000 bales were ginned. This increase, it is claimed, is due wholly to the ginning of threshed cotton, that is, cotton that has been threshed out from frozen bolls. Tuesday's report will compare with 9,647,327 bales ginned up to January 1 a year ago, and 12,465,298 ginned up to the same time two years ago.

With the census report out of the way the trade will be able to give its undivided attention to the statistical situation which is now unfolding itself in a very interesting manner. To many the very large movement has meant that the crop is larger than the popular estimate of 11,000,000.

Bulls have argued all along that heavy movement had been the result of heavy demand. During the last week, port stocks increased while inland stocks began to shrink, and the visible supply for the first time this season showed a decrease instead of an increase in its weekly variation. It is not improbable that statistics this week will do much to settle the still existing dispute over the approximate size of crops. Unless developments that cannot now be foreseen arise, the market will be interested mainly by statistics for some time to come.

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DRY GOODS MARKET

New York, January 8.—There is a better tone in the cotton goods market following fair sales of wide print cloths to printers; some goods for export, and small lots of brown and bleached domestics for the jobbing trade.

Fall River sold 250,000 pieces during the week, of which 50,000 were for spot delivery, and for the first three months of the year a fair total of sales is noted. The export business consisted of about 2,000 bales of 4.70 and five-yard sheetings for China shipment. Ticketed bleached goods for the jobbing trade are firm and an advance is pending in consequence of the cleared up condition of stocks and the unwillingness of mills to accept further business unless there is a margin of profit in the trading.

There has been a better trade in many of the fine wash goods which has come principally in the way of reorders from jobbers. The first week in the year is not normally a time of activity, but during the coming two weeks many of the largest jobbers of the country will be in the market, and it is anticipated that operations will broaden slowly. Cotton blankets and napped cottons for the fall season are to be shown next week.

While a conservative tone pervades the market, it was thought by merchant that optimism was more prevalent at the close of the week. The yarn markets are generally quiet on the last days of the week inquired were more general. The old difficulty of getting prices up to a parity of high cost cotton is still encountered.

Criminal Negligence Charged.
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Fayetteville, N. C., January 8.—Arabella Gilmore, whose three children were burned Friday night in a tenement, in which she had left them locked up, was arrested and held to-day on a magistrate's warrant charging criminal negligence and a violation of a State statute.

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